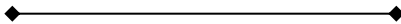


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Mason Fitch
Elders ~ Carmen Nicoll/Becky Sisk
Layreader ~ Terrie Wronkiewicz
Greeters ~ Sandy Surface/Debbie Presnell
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Monica Hinrichs
 *John Best, Laura Buckley, Steve Hinrichs
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Steve West/Ralph Tegg



OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to all. In that spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family structure, physical and mental ability, race, socio-economic status, age, and gender identity. We welcome all people to participate fully in the life and ministry of First Christian Church.

Ministry Programming Staff:
The Rev. Karen Merrick, Pastor
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries
Brian Woods, Organist
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

www.fccpeoria.org
www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)
- 7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board Meeting (110). *All voting members are encouraged to attend.*

TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. – Faith in Justice Task Force
- 6:00-7:45 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S)

THURSDAY

- 6:30 p.m. – Growth Committee

FRIDAY

- 7:00 p.m. – Movie Night ~ “Hocus Pocus 2” (S)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – PAMTA Recital (S)

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



October 16, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily. —Saint Francis de Sales

Fellowship of the Church

(Please register on pads at end of each pew.)

We want to extend a special welcome to our first-time visitors. You are invited to stop at the Visitor's Table before you leave to receive more information about our church and a little something extra.

A Minute for Mission – Stewardship

Music for Meditation

(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

*Gathering Praise – Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus #613

*Call to Worship

Leader: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us, and we proclaim:

People: Surely God is in this place!

Leader: We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love, and we say:

People: Surely God is in this place!

Leader: We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives, and we cry:

People: Surely God is in this place!

Leader: We come to see God in community both far and near, and we hold fast to the promise:

People: Surely God is in this place!

Leader: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God, and we exclaim:

People: Surely God is in this place!

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

Holy One, you know us already. Help us to know you better. Fill our worship with your Spirit so that we may recognize your presence in all places. This we ask as we pray the prayer your son taught us to pray, saying... Our Father...

(Words to *The Lord's Prayer* may be found in the hymnal – #307)

*Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #36

Scripture Reading – Nehemiah 3, selected verses

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children Hannah Fitch

(Following the children's message, children ages 5 and up are welcome to meet their teacher, Jenny Tripses, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Anthem Sanctuary Choir

In My Heart There Rings a Melody—arr. Patti Drennan

Message Karen Merrick

Getting Warmer: Standing in the Gap

*Hymn of Commitment words on screen

There Are Many Ways of Sharing—Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Softly and Tenderly* (vss. 1, 3) #340

The Lord's Supper

All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

*Doxology #46

*Dedication of Offering

*Benediction

*Congregational Response – *My Tribute* #39

*Postlude

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- Communion Elements ~ For those who feel they need an extra level of protection, there are sealed bread and juice containers with the bread sealed in clear plastic on top of the foil lid for the juice. We ask that everyone else use the double-cupped wafer and juice that will be passed through the pews.
- We are a church of prayer. There are prayer request forms in your bulletin. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in the east end of the lounge, or if you want to maintain confidentiality, hand directly to the pastor. If you want your prayer concern shared via the prayer chain, please indicate that on your form.
- Our sound system is equipped with a hearing assistance technology system. Pick up a receiver at the sound booth prior to worship. After the service, please return the receiver to the sound booth.
- October Sunday Study ~ Join us on Sunday mornings October 2nd - 23rd at 9:00 a.m. Roger & Vickie Baker will lead us in a study of 1 John.
- Advent Devotional Sign-Up ~ Our theme this year is *O Holy Night*. If you would like to write a devotion, please sign up at the information desk and pick up an information sheet with instructions. Please submit devotions by October 30th.
- Trunk or Treat – October 31 ~ Please consider joining us in the fun at First Christian on Halloween, October 31, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Please sign up this Sunday at the information desk if you can help.
- Movie Night ~ Join us on Friday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m. for the movie, "Hocus Pocus 2". Please sign up at the information desk.
- Book Club ~ The October book club selection is "Have a Little Faith" by Mitch Albom. We will meet on Tuesday, October 25, at 7:00 p.m. at Margaret Goulden's home in East Peoria. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Tasting Peoria ~ Join us for great pizza on Wednesday, October 26, at 6:00 p.m. at Sugar Wood-Fired Bistro. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Midwest Food Bank – Volunteer Project ~ Thursday, October 27, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sign up at the information desk.